

REMARKS

Claims 2, 3, 11-13 and 21 are pending. By this Amendment, claims 2, 3, 11 and 13 are amended and claims 5, 15, 22 and 23 are canceled.

The Office Action rejects claims 3, 5, 13 and 15 under 35 USC 112, first paragraph. It is respectfully submitted that the claims as amended are definite and withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 3, 5, 13 and 15 under 35 USC 112, first paragraph. It is respectfully submitted that the claims as amended are definite and withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 2, 3, 5, 11-13, 15 and 21-23 under 35 USC 103 over Hwang (US Pat. 6,089,949). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The cited reference Hwang et al. only show a medium having a dual thickness for improving wear resistance, but are silent with regard to the upper film of the protective film layer in the CSS area (or ramp load area) and the protective film layer in the data area are amorphous carbon layers, being composed mainly of carbon, a combination of carbon and nitrogen, or a combination of carbon, nitrogen and hydrogen, and a lower film of said protective film in the CSS area (or ramp load area) is a DLC layer being mainly composed of carbon and hydrogen (see column 8, line 63 to column 9, line 20 of USP 6,403,194), as required by independent claims 2 and 11, respectively.

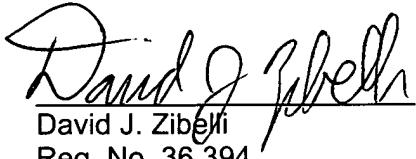
For the above reasons, it is submitted that none of the pending claims are obvious over Hwang et al. Withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (202) 220-4200 to discuss any matter concerning this application.

PATENT
Serial No. 10/055,996
Docket No.: 29284-556

The Office is authorized to charge any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or
§ 1.17 or credit of any overpayment to Kenyon & Kenyon Deposit Account No. 11-0600.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: October 27, 2005

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